

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:PFMORRIS:JVC

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

S/S -O:RELTZ

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O 020913Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241831

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP

SUBJECT: QUITO MEETING: LETTER FOR FM

PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER TACK:

QUOTE: DEAR TONY:

AS YOU AND OUR OTHER COLLEAGUES OF THE HEMIS-
PHERE PREPARE TO GATHER NEXT WEEK IN QUITO FOR THE MEETING
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES I WANTED YOU TO
KNOW HOW MUCH I REGRET NOT BEING ABLE TO BE WITH YOU.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS HAVE
MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO ATTEND ON THE DATES ULTI-
MATELY FIXED FOR THE SESSIONS IN ECUADOR. AT THE SAME
TIME IT WAS NOT FEASIBLE UNTIL NOW TO MAKE KNOWN THAT I
WOULD BE TRAVELING IN THE MIDDLE EAST. YOU CAN READILY
UNDERSTAND HOW SENSITIVE THE TALKS ARE INVOLVING THE AREA
AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THOSE TALKS TO WORLD PEACE.

BECAUSE OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I HAVE ASKED MY
DEPUTY AND CLOSE COLLEAGUE, BOB INGERSOLL, TO REPRESENT
ME AT THE QUITO MEETING, ALONG WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
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WILLIAM ROGERS AND OAS AMBASSADOR BILL MAILLIARD. I HAVE

THE FULLEST CONFIDENCE IN THEM. THEY WILL, OF COURSE, BE
FULLY PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE TALKS,

AND I SHALL EXPECT FROM THEM A FULL REPORT OF THEIR
DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU WHEN THEY RETURN.

I PERSONALLY WILL BE FOLLOWING THE DEVELOPMENTS
AT THE QUITO MEETING CLOSELY. MY GOVERNMENT AND I ATTACH
GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PROCEEDINGS AND TO THE FINAL
RESULT. BEST WISHES. HENRY A. KISSINGER. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE241831
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PFMORRIS:JVC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740314-0053
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741176/aaaacmjt.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 SEP 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QUITO MEETING: LETTER FOR FM PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER TACK
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PN, QUITO, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (TACK)
To: PANAMA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005